

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 03660 052056Z

13

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MC-02 COME-00 /022 W

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R 051542Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6175

UNCLAS ROME 03660

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECRP, OGEN, IT

SUBJ: CERP 1208 - VALUE OF TRADE IN MANUFACTURES

REF : STATE A-469, 1/28/1976

1. EMBASSY SYMPATHIZES WITH NEED FOR DATA ON TRADE IN MANUFACTURES BUT DOUBTS THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUARTERLY CERP REQUIREMENT FOR SUCH DATA WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE SITUATION. DELAYS ARE PRIMARILY ATTRIBUTABLE TO EXTREMELY SLOW PACE OF ITALIAN BUREAUCRATIC SERVICES AND DEFECTIVE COMPUTER HARDWARE (MOST RECENT CASE). OBVIOUSLY, THESE ARE CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND EMBASSY'S CONTROL. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT COMPUTER PRINTOUTS ARE THE FIRST COMPILATION OF THE DATA, THERE ARE NO RPT NO PRIOR ELABORATIONS.

2. EMBASSY WILL SEEK, HOWEVER, TO REDUCE PROCESSING TIME. DI LOLLI, ISTAT OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPILED SITC FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS, HAS PROMISED TO ADVISE EMBASSY AS SOON AS PRINTOUTS RECEIVED FROM ISTAT'S DATA PROCESSING CENTER. EMBASSY WILL EXTRACT AND CABLE TO DEPARTMENT IMPORT AND EXPORT DATA IN THOUSANDS OF LIRA SITC SECTIONS 5, 6, 7 AND 8 AND DIVISIONS 71, 72 AND 73. PRINTOUTS WILL BE FORWARDED BY FIRST AIRPOUCH IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER. PLEASE NOTE THAT DIVISION TOTALS ARE NOT PROVIDED IN PRINTOUTS AND MUST, THEREFORE, BE LABORIOUSLY COMPILED BY EMBASSY ADDING UP PERTINENT GROUP STATISTICS.

3. WE BELIEVE ABOVE HANDLING WILL SOMEWHAT IMPROVE SITUATION BUT NOT CURE IT. DELAYS EXPERIENCED IN THE PAST ARE DUE ONLY

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ROME 03660 052056Z

IN SMALL PART TO TRANSMITTAL. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE.

DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO RECONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF CERP 1208.
PLEASE ADVISE.VOLPE

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